

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of

Application No. : 10/626,148
Docket No. : 058420-00005
Applicant : Ciano et al.
Filed : July 24, 2003
Title : REWARD SYSTEM
Art Unit : 3714
Examiner : Matthew D. Hoel

Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INTERVIEW SUMMARY

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the courtesy of a brief telephone interview which took place on June 15, 2009, in response to a voice mail left for the undersigned on or around June 9, 2009. In that interview, it was discussed that the claims are subject to a four-way restriction requirement orally set forth by the Examiner in the June 9, 2009 voice mail (and referenced in a June 10, 2009 e-mail, copy enclosed), as follows: Invention I, including claim 1 (and its dependent claims); Invention II, including claim 24 (and its dependent claims); Invention III; including claims 26 and 33 (and their dependent claims), and Invention IV; including claim 45 (and its dependent claims). During the June 15, 2009 interview the undersigned orally elected to pursue Invention I, including claim 1. Accordingly, independent claims 24, 26, 33 and 45, and their dependent claims have been canceled in the Examiner's Amendment (except for a few claims which have been amended to depend from claim 1).

In that telephone interview, as well as a brief telephone discussion on June 16, 2009, it was also discussed that claim 1 might present allowable subject matter if amended in the manner set forth in the Examiner's Amendment, particularly by specifying with more particularity the

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starting point and ending point of the given cycle of the reward program. On June 18, 2009, amending claim 1 to add the "in each of said transactions" terminology was discussed and approved by the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

/Steven J. Elleman/
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505195.2

Elleman, Steve

From: Hoel, Matthew D. [Matthew.Hoel@USPTO.GOV]
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2009 4:22 PM
To: Elleman, Steve
Subject: RE: Serial No. 10/626,148

Mr. Elleman,
I spoke to my supervisor yesterday. I left a phone message for you detailing a proposed restriction requirement and what we believe are amendments for possible allowance. Please call me at (571) 272-5961 at your convenience.
Regards,

Matthew D. Hoel
Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3714
(571) 272-5961, RND06 A44
matthew.hoel@uspto.gov

From: Elleman, Steve [mailto:Steve.Elleman@thompsonhine.com]
Sent: Friday, May 22, 2009 1:02 PM
To: Hoel, Matthew D.
Subject: Serial No. 10/626,148

Examiner Hoel - following up on our conversation a few weeks ago, enclosed is a draft, proposed Amendment. Please feel free to call me if you would like to discuss. Thanks again for taking time to speak with me on this and to review this draft Amendment. Hopefully we can arrive at mutually acceptable claim set. Have a good weekend,

-Steve

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7/17/2009